



Summary

Introduction

INTRODUCTION

This product details the release of microdata from the Survey of Income and Housing, Australia, 2013–14. Included is information about the following:

- The survey
- The microdata files and content
- An explanation of how to use the files
- The data item list
- The conditions of use
- Information on the quality of the microdata

Microdata are the most detailed information available from a survey. This information includes responses to individual questions on the questionnaire or data derived from two or more questions. This level of detail is released with the approval of the Australian Statistician.

Available Products

The following microdata products are available from this survey:

- Basic CURF on CD-ROM and via the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL). The Basic CD-ROM allows approved users interactive access in the user's own computing environment
- Expanded CURF via the RADL and ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL).

Application for Access

Users should first view the information contained in this product and in the User Manual: Responsible Use of ABS CURFs. Users should also view the other microdata information available via the Microdata Entry Page. To apply for access to the CURF products, register and apply in MICRO.

Further Information

Further information about the survey and the microdata products available in this product:

- Detailed list of data items for the CURFs is available from the Downloads tab
- The Quality Declaration and Abbreviations are available from the Explanatory Notes tab
- Other related products are available from the Related information tab
- A Glossary relating to these products are available from the Explanatory Notes tab of the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

Data Available on Request

Survey data not contained on the CURF may be requested from the ABS as statistics in tabulated form. These tabulations present data items, populations and geographic areas selected to meet individual requirements. Requests are available on a fee-for-service basis, subject to confidentiality and sampling variability constraints. For further information contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

About the Survey

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Overview of the survey

The Survey of Income and Housing (SIH) collects detailed information about persons aged 15 years and over who are residents in private dwellings in urban and rural areas of Australia (excluding Very remote areas). Questions are asked about income, net worth and characteristics of people and households. The survey provides detailed information about: demographic and socio-economic characteristics, including education and labour force status; income amounts and sources; assets and liabilities; housing characteristics, including tenure, dwelling type and housing costs; and child care use and costs.

The SIH is currently conducted every 2 years. It is integrated with the Household Expenditure Survey (HES) whenever the HES is run (currently every 6 years). The SIH and HES were last integrated in 2009–10. The 2015–16 joint HES and SIH was in the field at the time of this publication release.

The 2013–14 SIH surveyed a sample of Australian dwellings between July 2013 and June 2014. In 2013–14, dwellings were selected through a stratified, multistage cluster design from the private dwelling framework of the ABS Population Survey Master Sample. Selections were distributed across a twelve month enumeration period so that the survey results represent changing income patterns across the year.

Information was collected from all persons aged 15 years and over in selected households. Computer assisted interviewing was used to conduct household and individual interviews. Information from 14,162 households was included in the final estimates.

Changes in the 2013–14 SIH

The 2013–14 SIH content was largely consistent with the 2011–12 SIH. Some changes were made in questions, definitions and methodology. Key changes to the SIH in the 2013–14 cycle include:

- The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2011 has been used for sample selection, weighting and output. At the sub-state level, this required a break in the time series. 2013–14 SIH included the Greater Capital City Statistical Area Index. The Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) was used in previous surveys
- The 2009–10 SIH sample introduced an extra 4,200 households outside of capital cities. The change was maintained for the 2011–12 and 2013–14 cycles
- 2013–14 SIH includes extra housing information last collected in 2007–08
- An item identifying carers has been added
- A new model of imputed rent has been designed and implemented
- Data on the new Dad and Partner Pay subsidy has been collected
- Selected social transfers in kind variables have been modelled
- The fully responding sample size decreased from 2011–12 to 2013–14 SIH (14,569 and 14,162 households respectively). The decrease had little impact on the key estimates, due to an increased sample loss and slightly lower response rates
- Additional information about lump sum amounts drawn from superannuation
- Previously, franking credits were partly modelled and were added to disposable income. In 2013–14 SIH, franking credits were modelled for all income from dividends, then added to gross income

The data item list is available from the Downloads tab for comparisons with previous SIH CURFs and changes to specific data items.

User guide

For more information, users of the microdata may refer to the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0). The SIH User Guide includes information about the purpose of the survey, the concepts and contents, and the methods and procedures used to collect the data and derive the estimates.

The remaining sections in this product provide information that is specifically relevant to using microdata release files.

File Structure

FILE STRUCTURE

Record Level Types

The 2013–14 SIH Basic and Expanded CURFs contain four levels of record files: Household, Income Unit, Person and Loans. Different information is available for each record level.

The Household level includes information on:

- State or territory
- Area of residence (Greater Capital City Area/Rest of state),
- Housing characteristics such as tenure type and housing costs
- Dwelling characteristics such as the number of bedrooms in the household
- Household type and composition such as the number of families in the household
- Household income
- Main source of income such as employee income or government pensions and allowances
- Household wealth
- Net imputed rent and gross imputed rent
- Information relating to the household reference person

The Income Unit level includes information on:

- Income unit income
- Source of income such as employee income or government pensions and allowances (as for household level)
- Weekly rent payments
- Income unit type such as couple with dependants or lone person
- Selected housing characteristics (including tenure type and landlord type)
- Child care use, costs and subsidies
- Demographic information

The Person level includes information on:

- Age
- Sex
- Marital status
- Relationship in household
- Country of birth
- Year of arrival in Australia
- Family type
- Income unit type such as couple with dependants or lone person (as for income unit level)
- Labour force details such as employment status and hours worked per week
- Occupation and industry
- Education status
- Education qualifications and education institution attending
- Income
- Source of income
- Barriers to labour force participation due to child care related reasons
- Carer payment and supplement
- Information on personal assets, accounts with financial institutions and offset accounts
- Superannuation
- Disability, including type and severity

The Loans level contains information about the characteristics of each loan such as:

- Main purpose of loan such as housing or vehicle
- Characteristics of loan such as:
 - Security
 - Amount borrowed
 - Principal outstanding
 - Weekly repayment

The Household, Income Unit and Person levels are hierarchical: a person is a member of an income unit, which is a member of a household. The Loans level is a member of the household level.

There are several identifiers on records at each level of the file. Weights are also included to enable population estimates. Children under 15 do not have their own person level record on the file. However, information on the number and ages of such children was collected and is included on the household and income unit level files. A complete list of the data items available on each record level for the CURFs is available from the Downloads tab.

Record Counts

Table 1 below shows the number of records on each level of the SIH 2013–14 Basic and Expanded CURFs. The number of records on the unconfidentialised file are also included in the table for comparison.

TABLE 1 RECORD COUNTS, SIH 2013-14 CURF

	SIH Basic no.	SIH Expanded no.	Unconfidentialised File no.
Household	14 162	14 162	14 162
Income Unit	17 092	17 127	17 133
Person	27 265	27 329	27 339
Loans	8 565	8 565	8 565

CONTENTS OF THE CURFs

This section provides details of the files included on each of the Basic and Expanded CURFs.

SIH 2013–14 Basic CURF file contents

The SIH 2013–14 Basic CURF distributed on CD–ROM or via the RADL contains the following files:

Raw data:

These files contain the raw confidentialised survey data in hierarchical comma delimited ASCII text format.

SIH13B.CSV contains all levels data

SIH13BH.CSV contains the Household level data

SIH13BI.CSV contains the Income unit level data

SIH13BP.CSV contains the Person level data

SIH13BL.CSV contains the Loans level data

SAS files:

These files contain the data for the CURF in SAS for Windows format.

SIH13BH.sas7bdat contains the Household level data

SIH13BI.sas7bdat contains the Income unit level data

SIH13BP.sas7bdat contains the Person level data

SIH13BL.sas7bdat contains the Loans level data

SPSS files:

These files contain the data for the CURF in SPSS for Windows format.

SIH13BH.SAV contains the Household level data

SIH13BI.SAV contains the Income unit level data

SIH13BP.SAV contains the Person level data

SIH13BL.SAV contains the Loans level data

STATA files:

These files contain the data for the CURF in STATA format.

SIH13BH.DTA contains the Household level data

SIH13BI.DTA contains the Income unit level data

SIH13BP.DTA contains the Person level data

SIH13BL.DTA contains the Loans level data

Information files:

FORMATS.sas7bcat is a SAS library containing formats

SIH13B.SAS contains a SAS program to run the SAS formats

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.PDF describes the file contents of the CURF and information on using the CURF

COPYRITE1.BAT describes Copyright obligations for CURF users

RESPONSIBLE ACCESS TO CURFs.PDF is an acrobat file explaining CURF users' role and obligations when using confidentialised data

Frequency files:

The following plain text format files contain documentation about data item code values and category labels at each level, with weighted and unweighted frequencies for each value.

FREQUENCIES_SIH13BH.TXT contains documentation of the Household level data

FREQUENCIES_SIH13BI.TXT contains documentation of the Income Unit level data

FREQUENCIES_SIH13BP.TXT contains documentation of the Person level data

FREQUENCIES_SIH13BL.TXT contains documentation of the Loans level data

SIH 2013-14 Expanded CURF file contents

The SIH 2013–14 Expanded CURF can only be accessed via the RADL or the ABSDL, and contains the following files:

Main files:

SIH13EH.sas7bdat contains the file of Household level data in SAS for Windows format

SIH13EI.sas7bdat contains the file of Income unit level data in SAS for Windows format

SIH13EP.sas7bdat contains the file of Person level data in SAS for Windows format

SIH13EL.sas7bdat contains the file of Loans level data in SAS for Windows format

SIH13EH.SAV contains the file of Household level data in SPSS format

SIH13EI.SAV contains the file of Income unit level data in SPSS format

SIH13EP.SAV contains the file of Person level data in SPSS format

SIH13EL.SAV contains the file of Loans level data in SPSS format

SIH13EH.DTA contains the file of Household level data in STATA format

SIH13EI.DTA contains the file of Income unit level data in STATA format

SIH13EP.DTA contains the file of Person level data in STATA format

SIH13EL.DTA contains the file of Loans level data in STATA format

Information files:

FORMATS.sas7bcat is a SAS library containing formats.

Frequency files:

The following plain text format files contain documentation about data item code values and category labels at each level, with weighted and unweighted frequencies for each value.

FREQUENCIES_SIH13EH.TXT contains documentation of the Household level data

FREQUENCIES_SIH13EI.TXT contains documentation of the Income Unit level data

FREQUENCIES_SIH13EP.TXT contains documentation of the Person level data

FREQUENCIES_SIH13EL.TXT contains documentation of the Loans level data

Further Information on File Contents

The Using the CURF section of this publication contains more information about the CURF's file contents. This includes how to use identifiers and weights, notes on data items and data item types available in the microdata release.

Using the CURF

USING THE CURF

ABOUT THE CURFs

The 2013–14 SIH Basic and Expanded CURFs contain four levels of record files: Household, Income Unit, Person and Loans. The four levels, along with information about individual items, are outlined in the File Structure section of this publication.

CURFs allow users to interact with survey data to their own, unique specifications. Uses include:

- Investigating data
- Producing tabulations
- Undertaking statistical analysis

While CURFs provide a great deal of flexibility, limitations on analysis can be impacted by factors such as sample size, the data classifications used, and conditions of use for the file.

Protective Provisions

The 2013–14 SIH CURFs are released under the Census and Statistics Act 1905. The act allows for the release of unit record data, provided this information is not likely to identify an individual person or organisation. As a result there are no names or addresses of survey respondents on the CURFs. Other steps, including the following list of actions, have been taken to protect the confidentiality of respondents. The 2013–14 SIH CURFs contain unit records relating to most survey respondents.

Protective provisions include:

- On the Basic CURF, households with seven or more persons were reduced to a maximum size of six persons. On the Expanded CURF, households with nine or more persons were reduced to a maximum size of eight persons. This was done across a variety of ages and in ways that minimised the impact on family and relationship coding. This reduction also resulted in the deletion of several whole income units, mainly single person records.
- The level of detail for many data items has been reduced, for example, State of Usual Residence for the ACT and the NT have been combined as ACT/NT for the Basic CURF. However, on the Expanded CURF, ACT and NT are kept separate.
- Most income items, and some wealth and loan data items have been protected using perturbation. During this process, selected item values are adjusted to prevent identification of survey participants while preserving the overall statistical validity of the data.
- Some variables have had values ranged or collapsed, or had maximum values reduced. The latter is a process called topcoding whereby all variable values that exceed a threshold value are reduced.
- For records with unusual combinations of characteristics, a household or person level item was changed to decrease the chance of identification. Details that were commonly changed include geography, age, country of birth, industry or occupation.

As a result of these protective measures, population estimates obtained from the CURFs are slightly different to the other 2013–14 SIH publications (Household Income and Wealth, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6523.0) and Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2013–14 (cat. no. 4130.0)). Variation in key items and populations are addressed in the CURF sample reconciliation tabulations document available from the Downloads tab. These tables provide a guide to the difference between CURFs and the unconfidentialised file, using indicators such as mean, median and population estimates.

Steps to confidentialise the datasets that are available on the CURFs are taken for three main purposes:

- Maintain the confidentiality of survey respondents
- Ensure the integrity of the datasets
- Maximise the value of survey content

Prospective users should first ensure that SIH CURF products will suit their data needs. Review whether the topics and level of detail you require are available on the 2013–14 SIH Basic and Expanded CURFs. As an alternative measure, data that has been obtained in the SIH but is not contained on the CURF files may be available via a tailored service request to client.services@abs.gov.au. The ABS Privacy Policy outlines how the ABS handles any personal information that you provide to us.

NOTES ON SPECIFIC DATA ITEMS

The data items included on the CURFs, and the categories within the data items, differ between the Basic and Expanded CURFs. The Expanded CURFs contain more variables than the Basic CURFs as well as more detailed data for selected variables. The data item list also shows the differences between 2013–14 SIH Basic and Expanded CURFs. Many of the differences result from the difference in the maximum household size permitted on each CURF.

A complete list of the data items available on each record level for the CURFs, including relevant population and classification details, is available from the Downloads tab.

Many of the data items included on the CURFs are self-explanatory. The Glossary in the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0) provides links to terms and definitions for most of the survey's data items. However, some items that require further explanation are defined below.

Identifiers

There are several identifiers on records at each level of the file.

Each household has a unique random identifier. This identifier appears on the household level (ABSHID), and is repeated on the income unit, person, expenditure and loans level records relating to that household.

Each family within the household is numbered sequentially. Non family members, single person households and persons in group households have a sequential "family number" commencing at 50. Family number (ABSFID) appears on the income unit level and the person level. The combination of household and family number uniquely identifies a family.

A family has one or more income units and each income unit within the family is numbered sequentially. Income unit number (ABSIID) appears on the income unit level and the person level. The combination of household, family and income unit number uniquely identifies an income unit.

An income unit has one or more persons and each person within the income unit is numbered sequentially. Person number (ABSPID) appears on the person level. The combination of household, family, income unit and person number uniquely identifies a person.

A household may have one or more loans and each loan within the household is numbered sequentially. Loan number (ABSLID) appears on the loans level. The combination of a household and loan number uniquely identifies a loan.

Geographic items

To enable CURF users greater flexibility in their analyses, the ABS has included two Socio-economic Indexes For Area (SEIFA) and several sub-state geography items on the Expanded 2013–14 CURFs. Conditions are placed on the use of these items. Tables showing multiple data items, cross-tabulated by more than one sub-state geography at a time, are not permitted due to the detailed information about small geographic regions that could be presented. However, simple cross-tabulations of population counts by sub-state geographic data items may be useful for clients in order to determine which geography item to include in their primary analysis, and such output is permitted.

Income items

The person level records contain detailed information on income, based on the source from which the survey respondent receives their income. The income unit and household level records contain information at a broader level. If detailed information is required for income analyses at the income unit or household level, this can be calculated by using the person level information for each income unit or household. Income is recorded on both a 'current' and a 'previous financial year' basis. For more information about current and previous financial year income, see Current, annual and weekly income in the Income section of the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

Where possible, supplementary items have been included on the file which replicate the content of the items that have been included on previous issues of the SIH CURFs. The SIH files include two income aggregates, "Total current weekly income from all sources" and "Total current weekly income from all sources (2005–06 basis)".

'Total current weekly income from all sources'

The publications relating to the 2013–14 SIH use this measure of income. It is consistent with the measure of income used since 2007–08.

The component items of "Total current weekly income from all sources" are:

- Current weekly cash employee income from main job (incl. salary sacrifice and bonuses)
 - Total current weekly employee income (incl overtime, salary sacrifice, bonuses and STRP)
 - Current weekly cash employee income from main job (incl. salary sacrifice)
 - Total current weekly non cash benefits from employer (non-salary sacrifice)
 - Current weekly employee cash income from bonuses
 - Expected current weekly paid overtime this financial year
 - Current weekly employee income from second job
 - Current weekly income from paid-out unused leave
 - Current weekly income from redundancy pay
 - Other wage and salary income – reported as other sources
- Current weekly cash income from own unincorporated business (reported)
- Total current weekly income from government pensions and allowances
 - Current weekly income from Austudy/Abstudy
 - Current weekly income from age pension
 - Current weekly income from carer allowance
 - Current weekly income from carer payment
 - Current weekly income from carer supplement

- Current weekly income from clean energy advance
- Current weekly income from disability pension, (DVA)
- Current weekly income from disability support pension
- Current weekly income from education tax refund
- Current weekly income from family tax benefits (modelled)
- Current weekly income from Baby Bonus
- Current weekly income from Dad and Partner pay
- Current weekly income from Paid Parental Leave
- Current weekly income from Newstart allowance
- Current weekly income from other government pensions and allowances
- Current weekly income from overseas pensions and benefits
- Current weekly income from parenting payment
- Current weekly income from partner allowance
- Current weekly income from service pension (DVA)
- Current weekly income from sickness allowance
- Current weekly income from special benefit
- Current weekly income from utilities allowance
- Current weekly income from war widow's pension (DVA)
- Current weekly income from widow allowance
- Current weekly income from wife pension
- Current weekly income from youth allowance
- Current weekly income from pension supplement
- Current weekly income from seniors supplement
- Total current weekly income from investments (incl. silent partner income, shares/trusts net of expenses)
 - Current weekly income from financial institution account interest (excl offset accounts) (reported)
 - Current weekly income from interest on debentures and bonds (reported)
 - Current weekly income from interest on loans to persons not in this household (reported)
 - Current weekly income from non-residential property (reported)
 - Current weekly income from residential property (reported)
 - Current weekly income from royalties (reported)
 - Current weekly income as beneficiary of a trust (excl. public unit trusts and employment income)
 - Current weekly income as silent partner
 - Current weekly income from other financial investments (reported)
 - Current weekly income from dividends from own incorporated businesses and trusts (reported)
 - Current weekly income from offset accounts
 - Current weekly net income from public unit trusts
 - Current weekly net income from dividends from shares
- Total current weekly income from other sources (incl. workers' compensation lump sums)
 - Total current weekly income from other regular sources
 - Current weekly income from accident compensation and sickness insurance
 - Current weekly income from child support/maintenance
 - Current weekly income from family members not living in the household
 - Current weekly income from regular workers' compensation
 - Current weekly income from scholarships
 - Current weekly income from superannuation/annuity/private pension
 - Current weekly income from regular sources n.e.c
 - Current weekly income from workers' compensation lump sum.

'Total current weekly income from all sources (2005-06 basis)'

This measure of income is comparable to that used in the publications relating to the 2005–06 survey however, there are some differences related to changes and improvements in the collection of information about sources of income that were introduced in 2007–08. The differences are the use of improved reported income from trusts and the inclusion of a broader measure of income from family members outside the household instead of restriction to regular, cash income from persons outside the household.

The component items of "Total current weekly income from all sources (2005–06 basis)" in 2013–14 are:

- Total current weekly employee cash income (incl. salary sacrifice)
 - Current weekly cash employee income from main job (incl. salary sacrifice)
 - Current weekly employee income from second job
 - Other wage and salary income – reported as other sources
- Current weekly cash income from own unincorporated business (reported)
- Total current weekly income from government pensions and allowances (2005–06 basis)
 - Current weekly income from Austudy/Abstudy
 - Current weekly income from age pension
 - Current weekly income from carer allowance
 - Current weekly income from carer payment
 - Current weekly income from carer supplement
 - Current weekly income from clean energy advance

- Current weekly income from disability pension (DVA)
- Current weekly income from disability support pension
- Current weekly income from education tax refund
- Current weekly income from family tax benefits (modelled) – (2005–06 basis)
- Current weekly income from Baby Bonus
- Current weekly income from Paid Parental Leave
- Current weekly income from Newstart allowance
- Current weekly income from other government pensions and allowances
- Current weekly income from overseas pensions and benefits
- Current weekly income from parenting payment
- Current weekly income from partner allowance
- Current weekly income from service pension (DVA)
- Current weekly income from sickness allowance
- Current weekly income from special benefit
- Current weekly income from utilities allowance
- Current weekly income from war widow's pension
- Current weekly income from widow allowance
- Current weekly income from wife pension
- Current weekly income from youth allowance
- Current weekly income from pension supplement
- Current weekly income from seniors supplement
- Current weekly income from dad and partner pay
- Total current weekly income from investments (reported)
 - Current weekly income from dividends (reported)
 - Current weekly income from financial institution account interest (excl offset accounts) (reported)
 - Current weekly income from offset accounts
 - Current weekly income from interest on debentures and bonds (reported)
 - Current weekly income from interest on loans to persons not in this household (reported)
 - Current weekly income from non-residential property (reported)
 - Current weekly income from residential property (reported)
 - Current weekly income from royalties (reported)
 - Current weekly income from public unit trusts
 - Current weekly income as beneficiary of a trust (excl. public unit trusts and employment income)
 - Current weekly income as silent partner
 - Current weekly income from other financial investments (reported)
- Total current weekly income from other regular sources
 - Current weekly income from accident compensation and sickness insurance
 - Current weekly income from child support/maintenance
 - Current weekly income from family members not living in the household
 - Current weekly income from regular workers' compensation
 - Current weekly income from scholarships
 - Current weekly income from superannuation/annuity/private pension
 - Current weekly income from regular sources n.e.c.

Previous financial year exclusion flag

The previous financial year exclusion flag at the person level (FINSCOPE) has a value of 1 for females whose family situation changed since 1 July 2010 (by moving in with a new partner, separating from a partner or becoming widowed). This also applies to persons who arrived in Australia during 2013–14. At the income unit level a value of 1 in the previous financial year exclusion flag (FINScopeU) indicates income units where the reference person or spouse has a FINSCOPE value of 1. At the household level, the previous financial year exclusion flag (FINScopeH) indicates households where the reference person, or spouse, has a FINSCOPE value of 1. Users analysing income data from the previous financial year may exclude these records from their analysis (by limiting their analysis to records where FINSCOPE is equal to 2).

Assets and liabilities

The 2013–14 survey collected information on a comprehensive range of household assets and liabilities to enable analysis of net worth and its components across households. Similar data was collected for 2003–04, 2005–06, 2009–10 and 2011–12.

Housing costs

Weekly housing costs included on previous SIH CURFs and used in the publication Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2013–14 (cat. no. 4130.0) is labelled on the 2013–14 CURFs as "Weekly housing costs (SIHC basis) - HH" and has the field name HCOSTSH. The component items are:

- Weekly rent payments (WKRENTCH), where Tenure type = renter

- Weekly general and water rates payments (RATESCH), where Tenure type = owner
- Weekly mortgage repayments to purchase/build (TRPAY1CH), where Tenure type = owner with mortgage
- Weekly mortgage repayments for alterations/additions (TRPAY2CH), where Tenure type = owner with mortgage
- Weekly repayments on unsecured loans for housing purposes (TRPAY4CH), where Tenure type = owner with mortgage.

Note that the mortgage and loan repayments in the items listed above are allocated according to the main purpose of the loan. For example, if a loan was taken out primarily to buy a dwelling, but part of it was used to purchase a car, the entire repayment amount is included in housing costs.

In the 2013–14 publications, housing costs have continued to be measured using HCOSTSH, in order to provide comparability with earlier issues.

However, in SIH surveys since 2003–04, extra information on housing costs has been collected.

- Where a payment has been refunded by a business or someone outside the household, the amount of the refund was collected.
- Where a loan had multiple purposes, details of all purposes were collected, so repayments can be allocated to each purpose in accordance with the percentage split of the original loan amount by purpose
- Loan repayments were able to be split into an interest component and a component representing repayment of principal. It could be argued that housing costs should only include the interest component – the portion of loan repayments that represents repayment of principal is a form of saving and possibly should not be regarded as part of housing costs.
- Information on body corporate payments was collected.
- Information on housing costs was collected from all tenure types. For example payments for water were collected from renters as well as owners.

A number of other related items are included on the CURF:

- TOWE1CH, TOWE2CH, TOWE3ACH and TOWE4CH record the amount owing on mortgages/loans, allocated according to their main purpose
- TOWE1C2, TOWE2C2, TOWE3AC2 and TOWE4C2 record the amount owing on mortgages/loans, allocated according to the proportion of loan used for each purpose
- TRPAY1RF, TRPAY2RF, TRPAY3ARF and TRPAY4RF record loan/mortgage repayments, allocated according to the proportion of loan used for each purpose.

Imputed rent

The SIH CURFs include experimental estimates of imputed rent for owner-occupied dwellings. The imputation has also been applied to other housing tenures in order to value the in-kind benefit conferred to households paying subsidised rent or households occupying their dwelling rent free. Including imputed rent as part of household income and expenditure conceptually treats owner-occupiers as if they were renting their home from themselves, thus simultaneously incurring rental expenditure and earning rental income. Inclusion of imputed rent estimates in income measures is in accordance with international standards for household income statistics, and provides a broader picture of the economic well-being of owner-occupier households and their social and economic circumstances relative to other households.

The imputed rent experimental estimates have been included on the SIH CURFs. Two household level variables are included, 'Weekly gross imputed rent - IR' and 'Weekly HH income from net imputed rent - IR'. Gross imputed rent is the market value of the rental equivalent, and has been estimated using hedonic regression. Net imputed rent for owner occupiers has been derived by subtracting the housing costs normally paid by landlords (i.e. rates, mortgage interest, insurance, repairs and maintenance) from gross imputed rent. Income totals incorporating the imputed rent estimates have not been included. Users wishing to analyse the effect of imputed rent on income should add net imputed rent to household income. When analysing household expenditure, gross imputed rent should be added and any housing costs normally paid by a landlord should be deducted. For further information refer to the Imputed Rent section of the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

Social transfers in kind

The SIH CURFs include estimates of social transfers in kind at the household level. Social transfers in kind consist of goods and services provided free or at subsidised prices by the government. Information reported in the SIH was used as the basis for allocating government social transfers in kind to households based on the composition of households and the characteristics of their members. The value of government social transfers in kind for

education, health, housing, social security and welfare, and electricity concessions and rebates (indirect benefits) is added to disposable income to derive disposable income plus social transfers in kind. Final income is equal to disposable income plus social transfers in kind less taxes on production. For further information refer to the Social transfers in kind section of the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

Imputation flags

Imputation flags exist for each module in the questionnaire, rather than for specific data items. A value of 1 indicates partial imputation where at least one question in the module was imputed. Referring to the contents of the questionnaire module can provide an indication of whether particular data items may have included imputed data. The number of flags with a value of 1 for a particular record provides an indication of the extent of imputation in that record. For further explanation of imputation flags, see the Data collection and processing section of the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

Multiple response data items

A number of topics in 2013–14 SIH contain multiple response data items, including housing, child care, disability and superannuation. In these instances, respondents were able to select one or more response category within a question.

Using child care as an example, in these items the output data is multi-response in nature. Child care data items on the Basic and Expanded CURFs are:

Income unit level

- 'Types of formal child care income unit used in the last 4 weeks' (TYPFCIUA--TYPFCIUF)

Person level

- 'All reasons lack of child care prevents parent from working' (UNMET07A--UNMET07J)

These items capture multiple responses where a person provides more than one type of child care. The first response is captured in the first, or 'A', position (e.g. TYPFCIUA), and additional responses are in the second and then third and higher, or 'B' and 'C' and higher, positions (e.g. TYPFCIUB, TYPFCIUC). If only one response is possible, for example 'none of the above' then this response may also appear in the 'A' position. Where a data item does not apply, (e.g. an income unit does not use child care) then a value of 9 or 99 for 'Not applicable' will appear in the first position (e.g. TYPFCIUA). The 'Null response' (value of 0 or 00) is a default code and should be ignored. All of these categories should be used in analysis. For specific information on the number of item repeats and the category labels and values refer to the data item list available from the Downloads tab.

Data Item List

DATA ITEM LIST

The 2013–14 Survey of Income and Housing (SIH) collected information using household and individual questionnaires. The Basic and Expanded CURFs contain information at Household, Income Unit, Person and Loan levels.

Users intending to purchase the CURFs should ensure that the 2013–14 SIH CURF products suit their data needs. Review the data item list to see the topics and the level of detail that is available on these files.

The data item list includes record level items, populations and classification details. It contains the following ten worksheets:

- A Contents page with links to the different sections of the data item list
- About this data item list, which provides an overview of the document
- Subject index, which includes both item descriptions and identifiers. It can be used to locate a variable by subject when the item name is not known
- Field index, showing item identifiers and numbers only. It is sorted alphabetically by item name, and presents a consolidated list of survey variables
- Household level data items, which provides a full listing of items that are output at Household level on the Basic and Expanded CURF files
- Income unit level data items, which provides a full listing of items that are output at Income unit level on the Basic and Expanded CURF files
- Person level data items, which provides a full listing of items that are output at Person level on the Basic and Expanded CURF files
- Loans level data items, which provides a full listing of items that are output at Loans level on the Basic and

- Expanded CURF files
- 2013–14 SIH new and removed items, which compares data items available between the 2013–14 and previous SIH CURFs (since a topic/item was last available)
- Changes to existing SIH items, summarising changes to data items between 2011–12 and 2013–14 CURFs

Access the complete data item list via the Downloads tab.

Conditions of Use

CONDITIONS OF USE

USER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Census and Statistics Act includes a legislative guarantee to respondents that their confidentiality will be protected. This is fundamental to the trust the Australian public has in the ABS, and that trust is in turn fundamental to the excellent quality of ABS information. Without that trust, survey respondents may be less forthcoming or truthful in answering our questionnaires. For more information, see 'Avoiding inadvertent disclosure' and 'Microdata' on our web page [How the ABS keeps your information confidential](#).

CURF DATA

The release of CURF data is authorised by clause 7 of the Statistics Determination made under subsection 13(1) of the Census and Statistics Act 1905. The release of a CURF must satisfy the ABS legislative obligation to release information in a manner that is not likely to enable the identification of a particular person or organisation.

This legislation allows the Australian Statistician to approve release of unit record data. All CURFs released have been approved by the Statistician. Before CURF access is granted, each organisation's Responsible Officer must submit a CURF Undertaking to the ABS. The CURF Undertaking states that prior to CURFs being released to an organisation, a Responsible Officer must undertake to ensure that the organisation will abide by the conditions of use of CURFs. The CURF Undertaking is required by legislation and individual users are bound by the undertaking signed by the Responsible Officer.

All CURF users are required to read and abide by the conditions and restrictions in the User Manual: Responsible Use of ABS CURFs. Any breach of the CURF Undertaking may result in withdrawal of service to individuals and/or organisations. Further information is contained in the [Consequences of Failing to Comply](#) web page.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

All ABS products and services are subject to the ABS Conditions of Sale. Queries relating to these Conditions of Sale should be emailed to intermediary.management@abs.gov.au. The ABS Privacy Policy outlines how the ABS handles any personal information that you provide to us.

PRICE

Microdata access is priced according to ABS Pricing Policy and Commonwealth Cost Recovery Guidelines. For details see the [ABS Pricing Policy](#) on the ABS website. For microdata prices please see the [Microdata prices](#) web page.

APPLY FOR ACCESS

Users should first view the information contained in this product and the User Manual: Responsible Use of ABS CURFs. Users should also view the other microdata information available via the [Microdata Entry Page](#). To apply for access to the CURF products, register and apply in [MiCRO](#).

AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

The ABS/Universities Australia Agreement provides participating universities with access to a range of ABS products and services. This includes access to microdata. For further information, university clients should refer to the [ABS/Universities Australia Agreement](#) web page.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Microdata Entry page on the ABS website provides information to assist users. For further information users should telephone (02) 6252 7714.

About this Release

The following microdata products are available from the Survey of Income and Housing, Australia, 2013-14:

- Basic CURF on CD-ROM
- Basic CURF via the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL)
- Expanded CURF via the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL)
- Expanded CURF via the ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL)

Apply online for access to these products at <https://www.abs.gov.au/about/microdata>.

These products provide estimates of income, wealth and housing. These measures can be classified by a range of household, income unit, person or loan characteristics. A detailed list of data items is available on the Downloads tab.

The microdata enables users to tabulate and analyse data. The ABS takes steps to confidentialise the dataset and prevent identification of respondents. This includes removing any information that might uniquely identify an individual, reducing the level of detail for some items and collapsing some categories.

The Survey of Income and Housing files are arranged in a hierarchy, made up of the following 4 levels:

1. Household
2. Income Unit
3. Person
4. Loans

Explanatory Notes

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The abbreviations listed below are specific to 2013–14 Survey of Income and Housing (SIH) Microdata. For further abbreviations used in 2013–14 SIH products, see Explanatory Notes in the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no.6553.0).

The list below includes additional abbreviations. This list is specific to the microdata product.

ABSCQ	Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications
ABSDL	Australian Bureau of Statistics Data Laboratory
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
CD-ROM	Compact Disc Read-Only Memory
RADL	Remote Access Data Laboratory
SAS	Software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
SPSS	Software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
STATA	Software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis

Quality Declaration

QUALITY DECLARATION

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) are released in accordance with the Statistics Determination section of the Census and Statistics Act 1905. This ensures survey participant confidentiality is maintained when microdata is released. More information on the confidentiality practices for CURFs can be found on the About CURF Microdata page.

For information on the legislative obligations of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), financing and governance arrangements, and scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

RELEVANCE

Microdata from the Survey of Income and Housing (SIH) are available as a Basic and an Expanded CURF.

This data primarily covers measures of income, wealth and housing. These measures can be classified by household, income unit, person or loan characteristics.

A data item list is provided to present the level of detail for CURF data items. This file includes comparison between the 2013–14 Basic and Expanded CURF, and with previous CURFs. The data item list for the Basic and Expanded CURF is located within the Downloads tab of this product.

TIMELINESS

The SIH is conducted every two years. The 2013–14 SIH collected information over the period July 2013 to June 2014.

Initial results from the 2013–14 survey were released on 4th September 2015. Subsequent publications and outputs, including feature articles, are expected to be released in late 2015. The next SIH is currently being conducted for 2015–16 as part of the Household Income and Expenditure Survey.

ACCURACY

Microdata contains individual person level data (unit records). This is a much finer level of detail than the publication Household Income and Wealth, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6523.0) or Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2013–14 (4130.0). For the level of detail provided, please see the CURF data item list in the Downloads tab. For more information about the 2013–14 SIH, refer to the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

Data confidentialisation is undertaken to maintain the privacy of survey respondents, while maximising the usefulness of the microdata. As a result, it may not be possible to exactly reconcile all statistics produced from the microdata with other published estimates. Further information on microdata confidentialisation can be found at the CURF confidentiality page.

COHERENCE

Each cycle of the SIH collects comparable information to allow for analysis of changes over time.

For more information on the changes to SIH over time, please refer to the Historical Information section in the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0).

The Basic and Expanded CURF data item list can be found on the Downloads tab. This data item list includes variable comparisons with previous SIH CURFs, lists of new items, items no longer included, and a list of items which have had minor changes (e.g. changes to data item labels or categories).

Further information about the steps taken to confidentialise the microdata is available through the User Manual: Responsible Use of ABS CURFs, Sep 2009 (cat. no. 1406.0.55.003).

INTERPRETABILITY

Several products accompany the microdata to assist users in interpreting the data. Users can consult this guide

(technical manual), the Explanatory Notes of Household Income and Wealth, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6523.0) and the Survey of Income and Housing, User Guide, Australia, 2013–14 (cat. no. 6553.0) for detailed information about SIH collection and contents.

ACCESSIBILITY

CURF access is available to approved users. Users intending to access SIH microdata should read [How to apply for Microdata](#) then apply for access through MiCRO. Users should also view the [Microdata Entry Page](#).

CURF Access Modes and Levels of Detail contains general information on different types of CURF access. A full list of available microdata can be viewed via [Expected and available Microdata](#). The SIH Basic CURF can be accessed on CD-ROM and through the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL). The Expanded CURF can be accessed through the RADL and ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL). If questions remain please phone microdata access on (02) 6252 7714.

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